

HERALD WANT ADS BRING THE BEST RESULTS OF ANY AD IN A WORD

LIVES ON BIG YACHT

Eccentric American Always Ready for Flight.

STEAM UP, BUT HE NEVER SAILS

Millionaire Bayard Brown Has Spent Twenty Years Off an Out-of-the-way English Port—Will Have Nothing to Do with His Countrymen.

Correspondence The Washington Herald, London, Dec. 24.—The large and handsome ocean-going steam yacht, moored off Brightlingsea, Essex, in one of the sunniest and safest havens on the east coast of England, lives a man, who in the course of the twenty years that he has occupied his floating home, has acquired the reputation of being the most eccentric individual in the British Isles. Bayard Brown is his name and he is an American. Despite all the efforts that have been made to penetrate the veil of mystery that surrounds him, that is all that has been learned about his origin and antecedents.

He is intimate with no one. He is a millionaire, and gives away money lavishly and indiscriminately. Those who have come in contact with him say that his manners and conversation at times are those of a polished, well-educated man of the world. On other occasions he is just as apt to be rude and insulting and without any provocation whatever, given ready to get under the skin of a moment's time he throws gold among the people who swarm about his yacht in small boats; at other times he pelts them with eggs, cabbages, and potatoes.

On one of the rare occasions when he came ashore, he chanced to see a homely-visaged woman standing at the gate of the little garden in front of her cottage.

"I'll give you £5 to get out of my sight," said Mr. Brown.

And the woman pocketed both the money and the insult and vanished. His yacht, the Valfreya, is fully manned, and has steam up night and day, ready to get under way at a moment's notice, but only once has she left her moorings since she dropped anchor. He shows a strong aversion to Americans. He will hold no communication with them under any circumstances, and his desire to get away from them that led him to put to sea.

Chased by Americans.

Two years after the Valfreya's arrival at Brightlingsea, it chanced that a large party of Americans were making a tour of the east coast, and hearing of Brown and his eccentricities, decided to pay him a visit. Through a skipper, Brown heard of their intentions and the tidings threw him into a great state of excitement. He gave orders to have everything in readiness to steam away. On following day the Americans chartered a lot of small boats and put off for Valfreya. Brown saw them coming at once ordered the captain to weigh anchor and put to sea.

Not of the men of the party fired a steam launch, and just for the fun of the thing, gave chase. The Valfreya's bottom was very foul and thick with barnacles, and though she clapped on all steam the launch gained on her. Seeing this, Brown, who was almost beside himself with rage, ordered his skipper to hail the launch and threaten to drop anchor and let her in if she persisted in following. The captain hesitated, but refused to allow the yacht's gun on the launch. Brown started to do it himself. Whether he would have actually fired at the launch, no one knows, but at this juncture, the captain decided that he would carry their joke far enough, and put back to Brightlingsea. But a week passed before the Valfreya returned to her moorings.

When the Valfreya first dropped anchor off Brightlingsea, it was thought, of course, that her stay would be a brief one. But Brown's plans, which have been carried out in a strange fashion, had been matured. He sent a boat ashore to fetch a local skipper, Capt. Smith, and having ascertained from his credentials that he was a good pilot and fairly qualified to command a steam yacht, engaged him at once. He told him that he would have to keep steam up on the yacht, and hold himself in readiness to put to sea at short notice, but that all probability the Valfreya would never leave her moorings as long as he (Brown) lived.

Smith has found his billet a very profitable one. Out of his salary, perquisites, and generous tips, he has made money enough to become the owner of a few trunks, and several houses, and has a large bank account. The eccentric American millionaire has been the making of him.

Gives Away Large Sums.

Two months elapsed after the Valfreya dropped anchor before Brown came ashore. Then he hurried into a trap which was there by arrangement, and was driven away to the interior of Essex and at some station on the Great Eastern Railway, caught a train for London. On his return a few days later, he had those same friends who had made him famous in Brightlingsea and the neighborhood round about. He announced that on certain days he would receive applicants for assistance on board his yacht. On those days small boats swarm about the Valfreya, filled with more or less needy individuals, both men and women. From among this motley and generous crowd, by some process of selection, based apparently on physiognomy, selects those whom he makes the recipients of his bounty and the rest depart to try their luck another day. But if he happens to be feeling out of sorts when the applicants arrive, he abuses them all roundly, throws things at them and sends them away empty-handed save for the things that chance to hit their mark. He distributes his gold in gold, never in checks or bank notes. He has contributed generously to school funds and other local enterprises. During the twenty years that his yacht has been moored at Brightlingsea he has disbursed over \$1,000,000. So Brightlingsea blesses the day when he first selected that spot as his haven of refuge from the world.

He is now apparently about sixty-seven years old; short, and sturdy of figure, with gray hair and beard, and ruddy cheeks. Three or four times a year he goes to London, but is never absent for more than a few days, and apparently his sole reason for these visits is to look after his financial affairs and collect his revenues. He seldom comes ashore at any other time. He receives no letters. Nobody ever inquires after him, except those who seek his help. His yacht is luxuriously fitted up and his table is supplied with the best that the market affords. He drinks only the choicest wines and smokes only the most fragrant of Havana cigars.

Herald Want Ads

Will be received at Sherwood's, corner Prince and Royal sts., Alexandria, and promptly forwarded to the main office.

DAILY COURT RECORD.

DISTRICT COURTS.

Equity Court No. 1.

JUSTICE BARNARD.

Pierce vs. Pierce; referred to examiner. Complainant's solicitor, W. E. Ambrose; defendant's solicitor, J. A. Toomey.

Doran vs. Doran; referred to examiner. Complainant's solicitor, J. E. McNally.

Traders National Bank vs. Murphy; referred to examiner. Complainant's solicitor, W. E. Ambrose; defendant's solicitor, J. A. Toomey.

Crimmins vs. Crimmins; referred to examiner. Complainant's solicitor, W. E. Ambrose; defendant's solicitor, J. A. Toomey.

Prairie vs. Prairie; referred to examiner. Complainant's solicitor, W. E. Ambrose; defendant's solicitor, J. A. Toomey.

James vs. James; referred to examiner. Complainant's solicitor, W. E. Ambrose; defendant's solicitor, J. A. Toomey.

Assignment for Wednesday, January 2, 1907.

There will be a preliminary call of the old numbered cases on the January calendar Wednesday, January 2, 1907, at 10 o'clock. Cases in which contempt fail to respond will be continued for the term.

Equity Court No. 2.

JUSTICE GOULD.

Assignment for Wednesday, January 2, 1907.

There will be a preliminary call of the even numbered cases on the January calendar Wednesday, January 2, 1907, at 10 o'clock. Cases in which contempt fail to respond will be continued for the term.

Circuit Court No. 1.

JUSTICE WRIGHT.

Assignments for Wednesday, January 2, 1907:

No. 123, Falls vs. Corley. Attorneys, J. F. Scaggs, W. J. Lambert, and H. E. Davis.

No. 5, Wright vs. Dunn. Attorneys, W. E. Ambrose, W. J. Lambert, and H. E. Davis.

No. 111, Dodge vs. Rush. Attorneys, Smith Thompson and C. T. Henderson. Attorney, William H. H. H.

No. 133, Eastering vs. Honing. Attorneys, Wilson and Barksdale-Tucker. Attorney, R. H. H.

No. 161, Butcher vs. Johnson. Attorneys, Birney, Woodard and Truller. Attorneys, R. H. H.

No. 162, Siders vs. Siders. Attorneys, R. H. H.

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MARRIAGE LICENSES.

High P. Royer, 34, and Carrie Virginia Moot, 31, both of Woodstock, Va. Rev. F. D. Power.

Clarence R. Pank, 30, Strasburg, Va., and Anna M. Keller, 29, Fisher Hill, Va. Rev. F. M. Bristol.

Harry King, 28, and Mary Tolson, 29, both of Alexandria, Va. Rev. Theron Outwater.

Clarence Sweeney, 28, and Jessie D. Keith, 21, both of Baltimore, Rev. E. H. Lamar.

William F. Patterson, 28, and Margaret R. Forsyth, 24, both of Baltimore, Rev. E. H. Lamar.

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